

DAD/OSH

NRO 25X1A

Copy 15 of 10

19 March 1963

## NRO DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Development of [REDACTED]

1. As you are aware, we are currently exploring various possibilities for the development of devices to [REDACTED] particularly the [REDACTED]. These possibilities include ground-based, shipborne, and airborne systems.

2. Prior to the commitment of funds for the development of such systems, it seems to me that it would be prudent to ascertain whether, in fact, we would ever be permitted to use such equipment should we be successful in its development. My concern does not stem so much from the problem of getting political approval to engage in such activities as it does from the likelihood of vigorous opposition from both the Air Force and the Navy to what they would almost certainly consider to be a compromise of technology and techniques which should be preserved for a hot war situation. We have previously experienced difficulties with the Navy with regard to the use of the [REDACTED] even though it is dissimilar in many respects to equipment being developed by them for the same purpose. I foresee even greater problems when they become aware of our intentions to actively [REDACTED]. SAC would also undoubtedly have serious misgivings about such a program.

3. In light of the foregoing, I have instructed [REDACTED] to temporarily defer the commitment of funds to such development to permit us an opportunity to assess this problem further. I think that we should have a meeting on this subject, at your earliest convenience, to determine our future course of action.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.  
Deputy Assistant Director  
(Special Activities)

cc: AD/OEL